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## Federal Taxes 1918

Present indications are that the official blanks for corporations will be ready for distribution about March 10th, 1919. This will allow less than a week's time for the preparation of the detailed data required for the complete return.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue announced on February 20th that corporations and, in urgent cases, individuals who are unable to complete their returns and file them by March 15th will be permitted to file with the Collector of Internal Revenue not later than March 15th an estimate of the tax due for the year, with a remittance of one-fuurth of such estimated amount and that the Collector will be authorized to accept from the taxpayers at any time within 45 days after March 15th (which would extend the time limit to April 29th) thi ruling the Commissioner further advises that should the ruling the Commissioner further advises that should the
payment on March 15th of one-fourth of the estimated payment on March
tax under this plan be greater than the amount eventually tound to have been due upon examination of the comfound to have been due upon examination of the com-
plete return, the excess payment will automatically be credited against the second installment, which will be due June 15th, but if the installment paid at the filing of the return, based upon the estimated tax, was less than one-quarter of the amount of the tax due the government as shown by the complete return, the taxpayer will be required to pay the additional amount and
also interest thereon from March 15 th at the rate of $6 \%$ also interest thereon from March 15th at the rate of $6 \%$ per annum.

We believe that the plan outlined above as pronosed by the Commissioner will tend to create much confusion and that the time allowed under this plan for the filing of estimated returns is entirely too short and that the entire trouble comes about through the endeavor of the Treasury officials to collect the first installment of the making the payment of the first installment should be extended.

In this connection we direct attention to Joint Resolution No. 219, introduced by Senator New of Indiana, asking that a general extension of thirty days be authorized; also bill introduced by Representative Snyder, reized; also bill introduced by Representative Snyder, requiring that the returns shall be made on or before April
15 th. If any immediate action is to be taken regarding the passage of legislation regarding these matters it would appear to be advisable that taxpayers voice their sentiments immediately by addressing communications or telegrams to

Hon. F. M. Simmons,
Chairman Senate Finance Committee, and
Hon. Claude Kitchin,
Chairman Ways and Means Committee
Washington, D. C.
The fact that the Commissioner has not yet had time to make any rulings covering certain complex features of the new Revenue Bill complicates the situation further, and it is our opinion that there is every reason why not only the date of filing returns but the date of the first installment payment should be extended at least thirty days.

## Ernst \& Ernst

## Audits and Systoms



GOSSIP OF THE STREET BANKERS HOLD WIDELY VARYING VIEWS ON PRESIDENT'S SPEECH Many Hesitate to Oppose Vast Accumulation of Knowledge of Subject Possessed by Chief Executive Gossip of the Street


Troops Back From the War and Others Homeward Bound

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